

What is Claimed is:

1. A medical device comprising a tube having a distal end, a proximal end, and a longitudinal axis, the device being adapted for placement of said distal end into a patient's body at a desired location, said medical device having a fixation agent disposed on said distal end, the fixation agent being adapted for affixing the distal end of said  
5 medical device at said desired location.
2. The medical device as recited in Claim 1, wherein said device comprises a localization wire.
3. The medical device as recited in Claim 1, wherein said fixation agent comprises a bonding agent, and said device further comprising at least one opening for dispensing said bonding agent into the patient's body.
4. The medical device as recited in Claim 3, wherein said bonding agent comprises a surgical adhesive.
5. The medical device as recited in Claim 4, wherein said surgical adhesive comprises a cyanoacrylate.
6. The medical device as recited in Claim 3, wherein said bonding agent comprises a fibrin glue.
7. The medical device as recited in Claim 3, wherein said bonding agent comprises a solvent.

8. The medical device as recited in Claim 2, wherein said medical device comprises a catheter, the catheter having a lumen through which said localization wire is introduced into the patient's body.

9. The medical device as recited in Claim 8, wherein said fixation agent comprises a bonding agent, and said catheter has a second lumen which accommodates said bonding agent.

10. The medical device as recited in Claim 3, wherein said tube comprises a braided outer wall, the braided outer wall having an interstice which comprises said at least one opening for dispensing said bonding agent.

11. The medical device as recited in Claim 3, wherein said tube comprises an outer wall formed from a coil of material, said coil being utilized to create an interstice which comprises said at least one opening for dispensing said bonding agent.

12. The medical device as recited in Claim 3, wherein said medical device comprises a surgical instrument.

13. The medical device as recited in Claim 12, wherein said surgical instrument comprises a tissue acquisition device having a longitudinal axis about which said device is rotatable and comprises:

a cutting element disposed on said tube for cutting surrounding tissue; and

a bushing disposed on said tube which is rotatable relative to said tube;

wherein the bonding agent dispensed through said at least one opening affixes said bushing to surrounding tissue, so that the instrument is secured in a desired location without preventing rotational movement thereof.

14. The medical device as recited in Claim 1, wherein said fixation agent comprises a mechanical fixation agent, which is actuatable to extend outwardly into tissue surrounding the distal end of said device to engage said tissue and to thereby anchor the distal end of the device at said desired location.

15. The medical device as recited in Claim 14, wherein said mechanical fixation agent comprises a Mallicot structure.

16. The medical device as recited in Claim 14, wherein said mechanical fixation agent comprises a hinged linkage.

17. The medical device as recited in Claim 14, wherein said mechanical fixation agent comprises a plurality of radially extendable and retractable wires.

18. The medical device as recited in Claim 14, wherein said mechanical fixation agent comprises a tube and a plurality of radially expandable flaps extending from said tube.

19. The medical device as recited in Claim 14, wherein said mechanical fixation agent comprises a rolled stent and an axially movable sleeve, wherein when said sleeve is moved proximally the stent is exposed and unrolls to engage surrounding tissue and affix the distal end of the medical device.

20. The medical device as recited in Claim 14, wherein said mechanical fixation agent comprises a radially expandable and retractable basket.

21. The medical device as recited in Claim 1, wherein said fixation agent comprises an electrosurgical element disposed on the tube distal end, which coagulates tissue surrounding the tube distal end and thereby causes said tissue to be affixed to the tube distal end.

22. The medical device as recited in Claim 1, wherein said fixation agent comprises an electrical heating element disposed on the tube distal end, which cauterizes tissue surrounding the tube distal end and thereby causes said tissue to be affixed to the tube distal end.

23. A tissue acquisition instrument for retrieving body tissue, having a longitudinal axis and comprising:

- a distal end adapted for entry into a patient's body;
- a cutting element disposed on said instrument for cutting surrounding tissue; and
- structure disposed on said distal end for securing said tissue acquisition instrument at a predetermined desired location, in order to ensure that the tissue acquisition instrument remains in place during a tissue acquisition procedure so that desired tissue is properly acquired.

24. The tissue acquisition instrument as recited in Claim 23, wherein said structure comprises a lumen containing a bonding agent and at least one opening disposed at said distal end for dispensing said bonding agent to surrounding tissue.

25. The tissue acquisition instrument as recited in Claim 24, wherein said instrument is rotatable about said longitudinal axis, said instrument further comprising:

- a bushing disposed on said instrument which is rotatable relative to said instrument;

wherein the bonding agent dispensed through said at least one opening affixes said bushing to said surrounding tissue, so that the instrument is secured in a desired location without preventing rotational movement thereof.

26. The tissue acquisition instrument as recited in Claim 24, wherein said bonding agent comprises a surgical adhesive.

27. The tissue acquisition instrument as recited in Claim 26, wherein said surgical adhesive comprises a cyanoacrylate.

28. The tissue acquisition instrument as recited in Claim 24, wherein said bonding agent comprises a fibrin glue.

29. The tissue acquisition as recited in Claim 24, wherein said bonding agent comprises a solvent.

30. The tissue acquisition instrument as recited in Claim 23, wherein said structure comprises mechanical attachment structure extendable outwardly into said surrounding tissue.

31. The tissue acquisition instrument as recited in Claim 30, wherein said mechanical fixation agent comprises a Mallicot structure.

32. The tissue acquisition instrument as recited in Claim 31, wherein said mechanical fixation agent comprises a hinged linkage.

33. The tissue acquisition instrument as recited in Claim 31, wherein said

mechanical fixation agent comprises a plurality of radially extendable and retractable wires.

34. The tissue acquisition instrument as recited in Claim 31, wherein said mechanical fixation agent comprises a tube and a plurality of radially expandable flaps extending from said tube.

35. The tissue acquisition instrument as recited in Claim 31, wherein said mechanical fixation agent comprises a rolled stent and an axially movable sleeve, wherein when said sleeve is moved proximally the stent is exposed and unrolls to engage said surrounding tissue and affix the distal end of the medical device.

36. The tissue acquisition instrument as recited in Claim 31, wherein said mechanical fixation agent comprises a radially expandable and retractable basket.

37. The tissue acquisition instrument as recited in Claim 23, wherein said instrument comprises a biopsy instrument.

38. The tissue acquisition instrument as recited in Claim 23, wherein said structure comprises an electrosurgical cutting element.

39. The tissue acquisition instrument as recited in Claim 23, wherein said instrument is rotatable about said longitudinal axis, said instrument further comprising:  
a bushing disposed on said instrument which is rotatable relative to said instrument;

5 wherein said structure comprises an electrosurgical element disposed on said bushing, wherein when said electrosurgical element is energized, the surrounding tissue

surrounding tissue is coagulated and bonds to said bushing, so that the instrument is secured in a desired location without preventing rotational movement thereof.

40. The tissue acquisition instrument as recited in Claim 24, wherein said  
5 instrument is rotatable about said longitudinal axis, said instrument further comprising:  
a bushing disposed on said instrument which is rotatable relative to said  
instrument;

wherein said structure comprises an electrical heating element disposed on said  
bushing, wherein when said electrical heating element is energized, the surrounding  
10 tissue is cauterized and bonds to said bushing, so that the instrument is secured in a  
desired location without preventing rotational movement thereof.

41. A method of performing a medical procedure using a medical device  
comprising a tube having a distal end, a proximal end, and a longitudinal axis, the  
method comprising the steps of:

- a) placing the distal end of the tube in a patient's body, so that the distal end  
5 is disposed in a desired tissue location; and  
b) dispensing a bonding agent from said tube into tissue surrounding said  
distal end, so that the distal end of the tube becomes affixed to said desired tissue  
location.

42. A method for performing a tissue acquisition procedure using a tissue  
acquisition instrument having a distal end, a proximal end, a longitudinal axis, and a  
cutting element, the method comprising the steps of:

- a) placing the distal end of the instrument in a patient's body, so that the  
5 distal end is disposed in a desired tissue location;

b) affixing the distal end of the instrument to said desired tissue location, so that the instrument does not move relative to the desired tissue location during the tissue acquisition procedure; and

c) actuating the cutting element to acquire one or more tissue samples.

43. The method as recited in Claim 42, wherein the step of affixing the distal end of the instrument is performed by dispensing a bonding agent from said distal end into surrounding tissue.

44. The method as recited in Claim 42, wherein the step of affixing the distal end of the instrument is performed by actuating a mechanical element to extend from said distal end and attach itself to surrounding tissue.

45. The method as recited in Claim 42, wherein the step of affixing the distal end of the instrument is performed by activating an electrosurgical element and operating it to coagulate tissue surrounding the distal end of the instrument, to an extent that the tissue bonds to the instrument distal end.

46. The method as recited in Claim 42, wherein the step of affixing the distal end of the instrument is performed by activating an electrical heating element and operating it to cauterize tissue surrounding the distal end of the instrument, to an extent that the tissue bonds to the instrument distal end.

47. The method as recited in Claim 42, wherein the tissue acquisition procedure is a biopsy procedure.

48. The method as recited in Claim 42, wherein the patient is transported



from one location to another between steps b) and c).

THEORY OF THE